

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Corps to discuss risk reduction on Westbank

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at Cytec's Tom Call Pavilion, 10800 River Rd., in Waggaman to discuss alternatives that will reduce the Westbank's risk of impacts from a storm event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year.

"A number of engineering solutions have been evaluated by the project team," said Julie Vignes, senior project manager of the Westbank and Vicinity Projects of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). "At this public meeting we will share details of the preferred alternatives that will defend the Lake Cataouatche area from storm surge."

The Lake Cataouatche levee project is discussed in Individual Environmental Report 15, and reduces risk to communities in Bridge City, Harvey, Lake Cataouatche, Marrero, Waggaman and Westwego. The meeting presentation will also discuss the Western Terminus Levee which reduces risk to communities including Ama, South Kenner and Live Oak Manor (IER 16). In addition, there will be an overview of the alternatives under consideration to upgrade the Company Canal Floodwall in Jefferson Parish (IER 17), and a review of the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

The meeting begins with a Corps-staffed open house at 6 p.m. A presentation of the alternatives under consideration begins at 7 p.m. and is followed by a discussion period.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow the public the opportunity to provide input on the development of the HSDRRS. Public meetings are an essential part of the Corps' commitment to environmental compliance efforts and project construction on the proposed 100-year storm system for both the Westbank and Vicinity and Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity areas.

The Corps encourages the public to provide written comments on IERs available for public review by mail, e-mail or by visiting www.nolaenvironmental.gov at any time throughout the environmental analysis period. Questions or comments concerning the proposed hurricane system should be addressed to:

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For more information or to sign up for meeting notifications please visit: www.nolaenvironmental.gov.

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